



County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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Chief Deputy Director

Board of Supervisors

GLORIA MOLINA
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

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Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

February 25, 2014

To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Philip L. Browning
Director

Jerry E. Powers
Chief Probation Officer

**TITLE IV-E CHILD WELFARE WAIVER CAPPED ALLOCATION DEMONSTRATION
PROJECT: SECOND AMENDMENT TO CHILD WELFARE INITIATIVE BETWEEN CASEY
FAMILY PROGRAMS AND COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

The County of Los Angeles entered into an agreement with Casey Family Programs (CFP) effective December 11, 2012 which was subsequently amended on April 30, 2013. This is to notify you that the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and Chief Probation Officer approved the Second Amendment to the Child Welfare Initiative and Agreement for Services to Children, Youth, Young Adults and Families between Casey Family Programs and County of Los Angeles and accompanying 2014 Work Plan. Language in the Second Amendment does not substantively change the terms of the Agreement, but rather more clearly defines the original agreement.

If you have any questions, please call us or your staff may contact Aldo Marin, Manager, DCFS Board Relations Section, at (213) 351-5530.

PLB:FAD:aw

Attachment

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

SECOND AMENDMENT
CASEY FAMILY PROGRAMS
AND
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CHILD WELFARE INITIATIVE AGREEMENT
AND
AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES TO CHILDREN, YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS AND FAMILIES

Pursuant to Part I Section 2.3, Part II Section 2.3, and Part III Section 8.3 of their January 1, 2012 Child Welfare Initiative Agreement and Agreement for Services to Children, Youth, Young Adults and Families, as amended, (Agreement), Casey Family Programs (CFP) and County of Los Angeles, California, through its Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and Department of Probation (Probation), enter into this Second Amendment to the Agreement, effective January 1, 2014 (Second Amendment). The Parties agree as follows:

- 1. Child Welfare Initiative 2014 Strategy Plan.** In 2014, the Parties shall undertake the Strategies in the 2014 Strategy Plan detailed in Attachment 5, which is hereby incorporated to the Agreement. Throughout the Term of the Agreement, the Initiative Leads shall document the Work Efforts and Initiative Strategies in the Work Plan. On a quarterly basis, the Parties shall evaluate and document the progress and impact of the Initiative Strategies and Work Efforts according to the reporting schedule in Attachment 5.
- 2. Children, Youth, Young Adults and Families 2014 Services Plan.** In 2014, the Parties shall work together to provide the services in the 2014 Services Plan detailed in Attachment 6, which is hereby incorporated to the Agreement.
- 3. Agreement otherwise in full force and effect.** Except as specifically set forth herein, all other terms and conditions of the Agreement remain in full force and effect.


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Second Amendment as of the Effective Date.

CASEY FAMILY PROGRAMS

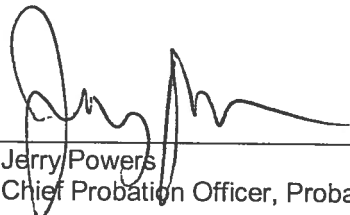
By: _____
William C. Bell, Ph.D.
President & CEO

Date: _____

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF
CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES;
PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

By:  _____
Philip Browning
Director, DCFS

Date: 2-24-14

By:  _____
Jerry Powers
Chief Probation Officer, Probation Department

Date: 2-25-14

Notice Address:

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Margarita.Perez@probation.lacounty.gov

**CASEY FAMILY PROGRAMS
AND
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

**CHILD WELFARE INITIATIVE AGREEMENT
AND**

AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES TO CHILDREN, YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS AND FAMILIES

ATTACHMENT 5
2014 STRATEGY PLAN

Strategy	Strategy Description	Strategy Budget	Project	Description
Data and Research to support practice and policy reforms <u>Outcome</u> Decrease number of children in foster care	Use of data and evidence to improve child welfare practice and policy by building use of Evidence-Based Practice and increasing data capacity.	\$0.00	Data to promote practice reforms <u>Detail</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LA County - DCFS & Probation - Data to Inform Practice 	Support data capacity-building and data analysis best practices, focusing on accountability and data-driven outcomes-focused approaches. Promote and support an evidence-based and outcomes-focused approach to child welfare system development and organizational improvement in order to build consensus on appropriate models of reform, the respective roles and responsibilities of public and private agencies, and to provide input on areas on which the child welfare policy and evaluation fields should focus.

Strategy	Strategy Description	Strategy Budget	Project	Description
Finance Reform and Reinvestment Outcome Decreased entries	Educate state and local policy makers regarding existing financing barriers and flexible funding strategies that can contribute to positive outcomes for children and families.	\$0.00	Title IV-E waivers - Implementation and evaluation <u>Detail</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> California - Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project 	Assist local/state jurisdictions with implementation of their waiver plan, and evaluation of the implementation, and reporting on results and outcomes.
Judicial Engagement to increase safe reduction in expediting permanency Outcome Decrease number of children in foster care	Support engagement of judicial officers, court administrators, Court improvement program leadership, and attorneys, guardian ad litem, and CASAs to reduce entries and expedite exits to permanency through data-driven strategies, collaboration across branches, and implementation of effective practices.	\$0.00	Effective judicial practices to improve well-being and timely permanency <u>Detail</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> California - Judicial Engagement 	Educate and support implementation for judicial officers, court administrators, CIP leadership of effective practices for achieving timely permanency and improving well-being outcomes. Includes support for specialty courts. Support judicial and agency leadership through technical assistance and joint problem-solving to advance safe reduction.

Strategy	Strategy Description	Strategy Budget	Project	Description
Policy reform and will-building Outcome Decrease number of children in foster care	Inform state and local policy makers, legislators and child welfare system leaders about policies and practices that can contribute to child safety, permanency and well-being.	\$0.00	Policy review, analysis and consultation <u>Detail</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LA County - DCFS Policy Rewrite 	Review and analyze state/local legislation, agency rules, and other policies to identify policy challenges and disincentives to safe reduction and well-being. Monitor and identify policy developments, and strategies; provide consultation regarding policy issues, gaps, strengths, options for improvement, and jurisdictions with useful policies and experience in particular issues. Provide assistance to streamline and to reduce complexity and contradictions in policies, rules and regulations.

Strategy	Strategy Description	Strategy Budget	Project	Description
Prevention and community-based support Outcome Decreased entries	Reduce child maltreatment cases through practices and policies that prevent or divert most at-risk families and children by educating and targeting scarce resources, including community, mental health and domestic violence, alternative response and mandated reporters.	\$0.00	Community-based, family-centered prevention <u>Detail</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LA County - DCFS and Probation Community Based, Family-Centered Prevention Strategies 	Promote, research, and support school- and community-based family-centered prevention programs for families to receive the services they need to raise their children safely and successfully.
			Differential/Alternative Response <u>Detail</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LA County - Hotline/Differential Response 	Support and promote implementation of differential response (DR), Appropriate and/or Alternative response (AR), which allows Child Protection Services to respond differently to reports of child abuse and neglect, depending on the level of risk to the child.

Strategy	Strategy Description	Strategy Budget	Project	Description
Promote permanency planning for children in care, including older youth and long-staying children <u>Outcome</u> Increase exits to reunification in 12 months, and exits to adoption in 24 months; Increase exits to permanency for children in care 3 years or longer (CFSR measures)	Emphasize expedited planning by supporting concurrent permanency options and targeted exit programs. Provide resources, training and implementation practices including case reviews to directly promote permanency options for long staying youth.	\$0.00	Permanency planning for long-staying youth <u>Detail</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> California - California Partners for Permanency (CAPP) 	Invest resources, including staff, to address permanency planning for long-staying youth (in care longer than 12 months). Engage in ongoing supervision and monitoring of permanency planning efforts.
			Permanency Round Tables <u>Detail</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LA County - Permanency Supports 	Support for Permanency Round Table (PRT) services provided by a consultants, who work with jurisdictions to identify and prioritize critical need target populations and create a personalized PRT plan that will achieve desired outcomes. Services may include consultation on PRT conceptual design, implementation of PRTs, and/or training and consultation for jurisdiction staff and other stakeholders, especially Training of Trainers (TOT).

Strategy	Strategy Description	Strategy Budget	Project	Description
Strengthen system capacity to address full spectrum of system of care <u>Outcome</u> Decrease number of children in foster care	Support long term systemic goals that enable child serving systems to address the child welfare system reforms end to end.	\$0.00	Practice model reform - end-to-end <u>Detail</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LA County - DCFS Practice Model Implementation Including CAPP Initiative Work - Connected to State Wide CAPP Work LA County – Probation Practice Model Implementation LA County - Support Blue Ribbon Commission Recommendations 	Support broad, end-to-end practice model reform efforts and promote national standards for child welfare practices. Implement a practice model that provides consistency in practice; clarifies employee roles and expectations, informs training, policy, and quality assurance, and shapes organizational design. Implement strategies to make caseloads and workloads more manageable.
Total				\$0.00

Quarterly Reports and CFP Funds.

CFP shall not pay any CFP Funds in 2014. Quarterly reports shall be submitted to CFP according to the following schedule:

Reporting Period	Report Due
January 1 – March 31, 2014	April 15, 2014
April 1 – June 30, 2014	July 15, 2014
July 1 – September 30, 2014	October 15, 2014
October 1 – December 31, 2014	January 15, 2015

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**ATTACHMENT 6
2014 SERVICES PLAN**

CFP DIRECT SERVICES. CFP Direct Services utilize a multi-disciplinary team approach to provide case management with comprehensive, functional assessment and action planning focused on expediting legal and relational permanence and improving well-being. CFP Direct Services include: a) Out-of-Home Permanency Services, b) In-Home Prevention Services, c) Young Adult Transition Services, and d) Consultation Services.

A. OUT-OF-HOME PERMANENCY SERVICES: PERMANENCY-FOCUSED CASE MANAGEMENT

CFP's LA County Field Office maintains a discrete number of cases, providing Permanency-Focused Case Management to support the case planning of the public agency case manager in an effort to expedite permanency for youth ages 11 to 18 (and siblings) under the custody of the public child welfare system.

a. Case Management & Decision Making Authority.

- 1. CFP Case Management Responsibilities.** CFP will provide Permanency-Focused Case Management agreed upon with the DCFS social worker that are in support of the DCFS case plan to advance and expedite the legal and relational permanency for youth in public child welfare foster care.
- 2. DCFS Responsibilities.** Placement, placement supervision and monitoring the overall youth and family case plan are the responsibility of the public child welfare worker.

b. Eligibility. Youth must be 11 to 18 years old, adjudicated as a dependent child by the Courts, and placed in the custody of the local DCFS child welfare agency in order to receive services. Youth must have a permanency goal of reunification, adoption or guardianship in order to receive services. If the county goal is APPLA or LTFC, permanency support services shall include efforts to change the court order to adoption, guardianship or reunification.

c. Referral. DCFS will refer youth/families for CFP Permanency-Focused Case Management after determining the need for adjunct services to advance legal permanence. DCFS will make referrals by contacting the CFP Field Office Director or designee.

d. Description of Permanency-Focused Case Management. When a youth/family is accepted to receive Permanency-Focused Case Management from CFP, the DCFS worker and assigned CFP worker will meet with the youth/family to identify services that will be provided by CFP and to clarify CFP's role in the DCFS case plan. Permanency-Focused Case Management are provided using a multi-disciplinary team approach and must include provide case management with comprehensive, functional assessment and action planning focused on expediting legal and relational permanence and improving well-being.

e. Case Closure. CFP may close a youth/family to Permanency-Focused Case Management when CFP services are complete. The length of time needed to implement identified services may vary and change depending on youth/family needs, and services may be re-negotiated if permanency was not achieved as a result of CFP intervention. If the youth achieves legal permanence, the CFP Permanency-Focused Case Management case will be closed. If the youth and family need post-permanency supports, the family may receive CFP In-Home Prevention Services. The CFP social worker shall notify DCFS within 30 business days of case closure.

B. IN-HOME PREVENTION SERVICES

CFP's LA County Field Office maintains a discrete number of cases providing case management for families referred by the public child welfare system for voluntary services. The focus of these Services is: 1) to prevent entry into foster care; or 2) to ensure stability and prevent re-entry into foster care for reunified, adoptive, guardian and relative families.

1. Case Management & Decision Making Authority.

1.1 CFP Case Management Responsibilities. CFP will provide voluntary case management services for families referred by DCFS and accepted by CFP for Prevention Services and for youth and families who have achieved legal permanence through CFP's Out-of-Home Permanency Services to ensure stability and prevent re-entry into foster care; families will receive case management services based on needs identified by functional assessment. CFP shall decide in its sole discretion whether or not to provide Family Services to any family.

1.2 DCFS Responsibilities. DCFS shall assist CFP in the provision of In-Home Prevention Services by providing referral information on the youth and family, history of their involvement with DCFS, and identifying current resources the family may be engaged with for assistance. Referral information should contain signed releases of information to allow CFP to gather needed information to serve the family effectively.

2. Eligibility. Families who meet the following criteria are eligible for CFP In-Home Prevention Services: (a) Families with youth primarily ages 11 – 18 years old and their siblings, (b) Caregivers referred by DCFS who are at risk of entering or re-entering the formal child welfare system; (c) There is an open DCFS case at time of original referral; (d) There is no open dependency with DCFS; and (e) DCFS and CFP believe the family will benefit from services and supports focused on promoting stability, and obtaining and/or maintaining legal permanence.

3. Referral. In-Home Prevention Services are voluntary and include case management for families living primarily within DCFS. DCFS will only refer eligible families to CFP for In-Home Prevention Services. CFP will provide case management to families referred by DCFS and accepted by CFP for In-Home Prevention Services. DCFS shall: (a) provide CFP with access to all files and other information in its possession regarding such referral, including but not limited to medical information; (b) use its best efforts to secure legal consents as necessary; and (c) inform CFP of all developments concerning the family. CFP will not accept any referrals for which DCFS has not provided necessary referral information.

4. Description of In-Home Prevention Services. In-Home Prevention Services are provided using a multi-disciplinary team approach and must include case management with comprehensive, functional assessment and action planning focused on expediting legal and relational permanence and improving well-being.

5. Case Closure. CFP may close a family to In-Home Prevention Services when CFP services are complete. The length of time needed to implement identified services may vary and change

depending on youth/family needs, and services may be re-negotiated if both necessary and requested by the family. In its sole discretion, CFP may terminate its assistance to the family at any time following a review by the CFP Supervisor and/or Field Office Director. The family and the referring DCFS worker (if DCFS has an open case at time of closure) will receive written notification within 30 business days of case closure.

C. YOUNG ADULT TRANSITION SERVICES

CFP's LA County Field Office maintains a discrete number of cases, providing voluntary case management with comprehensive, functional assessment and action planning. CFP Young Adult Transition Services are provided to 18 to 26 year-old young adults who have aged out of foster care or who are voluntarily non-minor dependents, ensuring birth family and lifelong connections as well as strengthening life skill development, safety, and well-being as young adults. The purpose of these Services is to advance legal and relational permanence while promoting successful entry into adulthood.

1. **CFP Case Management Responsibilities.** CFP will provide voluntary case management services to young adults determined by CFP and DCFS to be eligible for Young Adult Transition Services.
2. **DCFS Responsibilities.** DCFS shall assist CFP in the provision of Young Adult Transition Services as follows: (a) dedicating staff to serve as a Transition Liaison; (b) referring all eligible young adults to Transition Services at age 17.5, or within 6 months of their dependency being dismissed; (c) expeditiously advising CFP of all eligible young adults; (d) expeditiously processing youth payment requests for Transition Services upon submission by CFP; and (e) actively working with CFP to cultivate interest and involvement of foster care alumni in Transition Services.
3. **Eligibility.** Young adults who meet the following criteria are eligible to receive CFP's Young Adult Transition Services: (a) ages 18 – 26; (b) are alumni of foster care. Pregnant and parenting young adults are a priority population for CFP Transition services.
4. **Referral.**
 - 4.1 **Referrals.** Young Adult Transition Services are voluntary and include case management services for young adults residing primarily in DCFS. Young adults may self-refer to receive Young Adult Transition services, may be referred by third parties, or may be referred by DCFS. DCFS shall only refer eligible young adults to receive Transition services and shall verify eligibility to CFP of all youth referred to receive Transition services by third parties or who self-refer.
 - 4.2 **CFP Discretion; Acceptance.** CFP shall decide in its sole discretion whether or not to provide Young Adult Transition Services to any young adult, waive CFP eligibility requirements and/or the nature and terms under which to provide services. To facilitate its decision, for young adult referred by DCFS, DCFS shall: (a) provide CFP with access to all files and other information in its possession regarding such referral, including but not limited to medical information; (b) use its best efforts to secure legal consents as necessary; (c) inform CFP of all developments concerning the young adult, and (d) give CFP reasonable advance notice of all DCFS meetings and staff conferences in which significant decisions will be made concerning the young adult. CFP will not accept referrals of any young adult for whom DCFS has not provided necessary referral information.
5. **Description of Young Adult Transition Services.** Young Adult Transition Services are provided using a multi-disciplinary team approach and must include case management with comprehensive, functional assessment and action planning focused on expediting legal and relational permanence and improving well-being. Services may include, but are not limited to employment supports, permanency services, and education supports.

6. **Case Closure.** CFP may close a young adult to Young Adult Transition Services when CFP services are complete. The length of time needed to implement identified services may vary and change depending on identified needs, and services may be re-negotiated if both necessary and requested by the young adult. In its sole discretion, CFP may terminate its assistance to the young adult at any time following a review by the CFP Supervisor and/or Field Office Director. The young adult and the referring DCFS worker (if DCFS has an open case at time of closure) will receive written notification within 30 business days of case closure.

D. CONSULTATION SERVICES

1. **Description.** CFP's LA County Field Office may engage in consultation services for the local public child welfare system and community partners that impact the three areas of safe reduction: increase exits from care, reduce lengths of stay, and reduce entries into care. This may include participation/coordination of Permanency Roundtables, support through Supplemental Resources, or other supports that contribute to permanency and well-being.

2. **Eligibility and Funding.** Supplemental Resources funding may only be used when use of the funds removes the final barrier to permanency.

3. **Referral.** Youth and families must be referred from DCFS in order to receive Supplemental Resources. CFP shall decide in its sole discretion whether or not to provide Supplemental Resources to any family.

4. **Supplemental Resources Procedures.** CFP assigned staff shall notify the referrer of CFP's decision whether the referral is accepted, wait listed or denied within 10 business days of the request.